....MINUTES....

OF THE

FIFTEENTH SPRING SESSION

OF THE

Bear Creek Prmitive Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

Clark's Grove, Stanly County, N. C.,

MAY 6TH, 7TH AND 8TH, 1899.

ALSO OF THE

SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL OR FALL SESSION,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

High Hill, Union County, N. C.,

SEPTEMBER 30TH AND OCTOBER 1ST AND 2ND, 1899.

Compiled by J. W. JONES, CLERK, White Store, N. C.

G. M. BEASLEY & BRO., PRINTERS, MONROE, N. C.

Proceedings Spring Session, 1899.

Clark's Grove, Stanly County, N. C. May 6th.

Assembled at the stand at eleven o'clock, a. m. Service opened with praise and prayer by Elder J. E. Williams.

Introductory sermon delivered by Elder J. F. Mills.

Intermission thirty minutes.

After which the Association assembled in the house. Elder Little, the Moderator, being absent, the Clerk called the body to order, and called to the chair to act as temporary moderator, Elder J. F. Mills, who opened with praise and prayer.

1st. Called for and read letters from the several churches and their status noted. (See table.)

2nd. Reorganized by appointing Elder J. F. Mills Moderator and J. W. Jones Clerk.

3rd. Called for correspondence from sister Associations. None present.

Received minutes from Abbotts Creek, Mill Branch and Silver Creek Associations.

4th. Invited visiting brethren of sister Associations to seats. Bro. P. M. Foster of Abbotts Creek took a seat.

5th. Appointed Committee of Arrangements as follows: Elder A. G. Morton and brethren S. L. Mullis and N. G. Jones, with Moderator and Clerk, to report Monday morning.

6th. Appointed Elders G. L. Chaney, J. E. Williams, A. G. Morton and J. F. Mills to preach at the stand tomorrow. Service to commence at 10, a. m.

7th. Adjourned to half past nine o'clock Monday morning. Benediction by the Moderator.

Saturday, while the Association was in session in the house, Elder J. E. Williams preached at the stand; Brother Marshal Williams also talked a while.

SUNDAY, May 7th.

Service opened at the stand by Elder J. F. Mills, who preached from 6th verse of 62nd chapter of Isaiah. Elder J. E. Williams followed, using as a text the 14th verse of 22nd chapter of Revelations. Then intermission one hour. After which services were resumed at the stand. Elder S. C Little preached from 13th and 14th verses of 9th chapter of Hebrews. Elder A. G. Morton closed the day's service by using as his text the 24th verse of the 4th chapter of St. John.

MONDAY MORNING, May 8th.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Elder A. G. Morton.

8th. Called on committee of Arrangements to report. Report read and adopted.

9th. Called names of Messengers, noted absentees thus * and read Rules of Decorum.

10th. Called on Presbyteries to report. No report.

11th. That we extend thanks to God, this church and the people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this present meeting.

12th. That we now adjourn to time and place mentioned in our last minutes. Benediction by the Moderator.

While the Association was in session in the house there was preaching at the stand by Elder S. C. Little and Elder A. G. Morton. (Elder Little's text not known to writer.) Elder Morton preached from 1st and 2nd verses of the 5th chapter of Romans.

J. W. JONES, Clerk.

ELDER J. F. MILLS, Moderator.

TABLE—Spring Session, 1899, Messengers.

Bear Creek—Jesse Morton, W. P. Bowers, Eli Herrin.

Bethany—N. G. Jones, P. Vaughan*, E. C. Jones*.

Crooked Creek—Elder J E. Williams, Wm. M. Benton, H. M. Williams.

Clark's Grove—E. Barbee.

Freedom—Elder Jesse Brown, J. A. Holt, J. H. Hinson.

High Hill—J T. Helms, J. J. Hill, J. D. Helms.

Howard's Chapel—D. B. Howard, John Smith, Henry Carpenter.

Jerusalem—L. Williams, Joe Thomas*, W. A. Helms*.

Jones Hill—Elder S. C. Little, J. A. Little.

Liberty—Not represented.

Liberty Hill—Elder G. L. Chaney, J. C. Gilbert.*

Lawyers Spring—J. W. Jones, Thos. Tyson*, H. M. Baucom.

Meadow Creek—E. F. Honeycutt, J. A. Barbee, T. P. Ledbetter*.

Mountain Creek—J. Miller, A. Vanhoy*, J. T. Russel*.

Pleasant Hill—J. S. Norris*.

Union Grove—T. A. McClellan, J. Baucom, O. Baucom.

Watson—Elder J. F. Mills, J. A. Jones, S. L. Mullis.

Absentees marked thus *. For Statistics see Fall Table.

Proceedings of the Fall Session.

HIGH HILL, Union County, N. C.
September 30th, 1899.

Introductory Sermon preached by Elder A. G. Morton. Text, 6th verse of 2nd chapter of Col. Intermission thirty minutes. After which the ministers and messengers assembled in the house. Opened with praise and prayer by Elder E. E. Lundy. The business of the Association was then proceeded with as follows:

1st. Called for and read letters from the several churches of the Association and their status minuted. (See table.)

2nd. Organized by re-electing Elder J. F. Mills Moderator and J. W. Jones Clerk.

3rd. Called for corresponding messengers from sister Associations. Brethren P. M. Foster, S C. Lanier and Sam Snider of Abbotts Creek, and Bro. S. J. Mckinney of Silver Creek, were present and seated in council.

4th. Invited visiting brethren of sister Associations to seats. Elder E. E. Lundy of Mountain Dist. was present and seated.

5th. Appointed a Committee of Arrangements as follows: Elders S. C. Little, A. G. Morton, Bro. J. D. Helms and Moderator and Clerk.

6th. Appointed brethren John A. Little and D. B. Howard a committee of Finance.

7th. Elected by ballot the following Elders to preach at the stand on tomorrow, viz: S. C. Little, E. E. Lundy and J. F. Mills. Service to commence at ten, a. m.

8th. Adjourned to half past nine Monday morning. Benediction by Elder Little.

While the Association was in session in the house Elders E. E. Lundy and J. E. Williams conducted services at the stand.

SUNDAY, Oct. 1st.

Service opened by Elder J. F. Mills who, after praise and prayer, preached. Text, "We preach Christ crucified." Elder Lundy followed from 1st to 13th verses of 25th chapter of Matthew. Intermission one hour. Then Elder S. C. Little preached. Text, "Words fitly spoken are as pictures of silver and apples of gold."

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 2nd.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Praise and prayer by Bro. H. M. Williams.

9th. Called on Committee of Arrangements to report. Report read and adopted.

10th. Called names of messengers, noted absentees and read Rules of Decorum.

11th. Called on corresponding messengers to sister Associations to report. Elder Mills reported that himself and brethren W. E Williams, D. B. Howard, J. T. Helms and R. B. Burris attended the Abbotts Union, and were received in fellowship.

12th. Appointed correspondence with the following sister Associations thus: To Abbotts Creek, Elders J. E. Williams, J. F. Mills and Minutes; to Mill Branch, Minutes; to Center, Minutes; to Silver Creek, Elders J. F. Mills, J. E. Williams and brethren W. E. Williams and S. L. Mullis and Minutes; to Cool Spring, N. G. Jones, J. W. Jones and file of Minutes; to Mountain District, Minutes.

13th. Called on Presbyteries to report. Elder J. E. Williams reported that himself, Elder A. G. Morton and Bro. H. M. Williams, on the 1st Sunday in August, 1899, formed a Presbytery at Bear Creek and ordained Bro. Jesse Morton a deacon of that church.

14th. That our Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum be published in these Minutes.

15th. Called on Committee of Finance to report. They report sent up by the churches this year, - - $19.75.
Treasurer reports on hand from last year, - - 4.75.

Total funds on hand, - - - - - - $24.50.

17th. The questions as sent up by High Hill were discussed some and disposed of as follows:

(1st.) Question: "Is a church in good disciplinary standing when she holds a member in fellowship when they have slanderous reports generally following them?" The Association answered that such church would be in disorder.

(2nd) Question: "Has a church a scriptural right to forgive drunkenness or any of the abominations spoken of in the same connection by Paul to the Corinthian brethren; after the first and second admonition?" The Association answered that a church has no scriptural right to forgive in such cases.

It was then reported that Elder G. L. Chaney, a member of Liberty Hill church, was just such a character as alluded to in the last above question as to drunkenness, and the Association then passed a resolution declaring non-fellowship for him and any and all other people who fellowship or recognize him as a minister of the gospel.

18th. That the next Spring Session of this Association be held with the church at Crooked Creek, 12 miles north of Monroe, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in May, 1900, and that Elder J. F. Mills preach the introductory sermon, Elder J. E. Williams alternate; and that the annual or fall session be held with the church at Jones Hill, about 2 miles south of Big Lick, commencing on Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1900, and that Elder S. C. Little preach the introductory sermon, Elder A. G. Morton alternate.

19th. That the Clerk superintend the printing of 600 copies of these minutes, distribute as usual and that he have eight dollars for his services.

20th. That we request the Clerk to ask Elder Gold to publish the time and sittings of our next year's Associations in Zion's Landmark.

21st. That we return thanks to God, this church and people of this vicinity for kindness and hospitality during this meeting.

22nd. Then adjourned to time and places above mentioned in these minutes.

While the Association was in session in the house services were conducted at the stand by Bro. Marshal Williams and Elder E. E. Lundy. There were large and attentive audiences present each day and good behavior was generally observed. ELDER JAS. F. MILLS, Moderator.

J. W. JONES, Clerk, White Store N. C.

Annual Table—Spring and Fall Statistics Consolidated.

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	By Experience	Baptised	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dis'd by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	In Fellowship	Contributions for Minutes
Bear Creek	Green Alman, Jesse Morton, J. H. Herrin	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	18	$1 25
Bethany	N. G. Jones, E. C. Jones, A. D. Maness,	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	10	1 10
Crooked Creek	Elder J. E. Williams, W. D. Benton, H. M. Williams,	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	20	1 00
Clarks Grove	E. Barbee, James Howell,	2	2	1	..	..	1	..	8	1 25
Freedom	Elder Jesse Brown*, J. A Holt*, J. H. Hinson.	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	7	50
High Hill	A. M. Helms, Myers Medlin, J. D. Helms,	3	3	..	1	..	4	1	56	2 00
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Poplin, D. B. Howard, John Smith*.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	13	1 00
Jones Hill	Elder S. C. Littlle, Elder A. G. Morton, J. A. Little,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	1 00
Jerusalem	James Godwin, Joe Thomas, W. A. Helms,	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	23	2 00
Liberty	J. D. Whitley, B R. Funderburk, John Whitley,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	75
Liberty Hill	Elder G. L. Chaney*, Jesse Gilbert*, D. B. McIntire*,	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	13	.....
Lawyer's Spring	C. P. Griffin, E. W. German, J. W. Jones,	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	34	2 25
Meadow Creek	J. A. Barbee, D. E. Honeycutt, T. P. Ledbetter*,	2	2	..	..	..	..		22	1 55
Mountain Creek	Josirah Miller, A. Vanhoy,* J. T. Russell*,	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	14	60
Pleasant Hill	J. S. Norris, H. P. Cashe1,	2	2	..	..	..	..	.	10	1 00
Union Grove	I. A. Medlin, T. A. McClellan, C. S. Medlin,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	1 00
Watson	S. L. Mullis, E. C. Williams, Joel Mullis,	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	21	1 50
	Absentees marked thus *	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	... ..
	Total	11	11	5	6	2	8	4	336	$19 75

Annual Communion Meetings.

CHURCHES	CLERKS AND THEIR POSTOFFICES	The Annual Communion Meeting Time of Each Church
Bear Creek	W. P. Bowers, Bloomington, N. C.	1st Sun. in Sept.
Bethany	N. G. Jones, Jones Creek, "	3rd " Aug.
Crooked Creek	S. W. Eason, Love's Level, "	3rd " July
Clarks Grove	E. Barbee, Garmond, "	
Freedom	J. A. Holt, Whitley, "	2nd " Sept.
High Hill	A. M. Helms, Monroe, "	1st " Sept.
Howard's Chapel	W. H. Poplin, Efird's Mill, "	4th " Sept.
Jones Hill	J. A. Little, Big Lick, "	3rd " Sept.
Jerusalem	T. A. Helms, Negrohead, "	2nd " Aug.
Liberty	J. D. Whitley, Monroe, "	4th " July
Liberty Hill	Jesse Gilbert, Big Lick, "	4th " July
Lawyer's Spring	J. W. Jones, White Store, "	1st " Aug.
Meadow Creek	E. F. Huneycutt, Big Lick, "	3rd " Aug.
Mountain Creek	A. F. Huneycutt, Bridgeport, "	2nd " Oct.
Pleasant Hill	J. S. Norris, Rock Cut, "	4th " June
Union Grove	I. N. Medlin, Monroe, "	2nd " Sept.
Watson	S. L. Mullis, Sincerity, "	

The above dates, including Saturday before, also represent the regular Monhly Meeting Time of the Churches.

Financial Statement for 1899.

Sent up by the churches this year,	$19.75	
Left over from last year,	4.75	
Total receipt,		$24.50
For printing there Minutes,	$12.00	
Allowance to Clerk,	8.00	
Total expenses,		$20.00
Balance on hand,		$4.50

Rules of Decorum.

1st. A Moderator, or Chief Speaker, and Clerk may be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

2nd. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall take his seat at the hour to which the Association shall be adjourned, and after prayer shall proceed to business. It shall be his duty to keep order, and shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as that of another member; provided he appoint one of the members to fill the chair during the exercises of such privilege, and in no case shall give a vote unless the Association be equally divided.

3rd. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Chief Speaker by the appellation of Brother, and while speaking shall confine himself strictly to the subject in question, and shall not be interrupted unless he digress from the subject, and shall in nowise reflect on any other speaker, so as to make remarks on his slips and failings and imperfections, but shall fairly give his own views of the case without sophistry or criticism.

4th. No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without leave of the Association.

5th. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave.

6th. No member of the Association shall address any other member by any other term or name than that of Brother.

7th. The Chief Speaker, or Moderator, shall not interrupt one member to prohibit him from speaking until his speech is finished, except he break the Rules of Decorum.

8th. The names of all the members of this Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and be called over as often as the Association may require.

Any member who shall willingly and knowingly break or violate any of the foregoing rules of this Association, shall be reproved by the Association in any way they may think proper.

Articles of Faith.

Article 1—We believe in one only living and true God, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Art. 2—We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all of God's perfection in nature, providence, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine Word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Art. 3—We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments contain the only written revealed word of God, and are the only perfect rule of faith and practice for God's church in her militant state while here on earth.

Art. 4—We believe in the doctrine of Election, that God chose His church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Art. 5—We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, their federal head.

Art. 6—We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

Art. 7—We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Art. 8—We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and his righteousness only.

Art. 9—We believe that God's elect or church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Art. 10—We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

Art. 11—We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men.

Art. 12—We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptised, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular Presbytery.

Art. 13—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust, and a general judgment.

Art. 14—We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.